

U.S. Patent Application No.: 10/669,159
Filing Date: September 23, 2003
Amendment dated December 30, 2005

PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 713-63-PA

REMARKS

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed October 4, 2005.
Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-59 were examined. Claims 1-6, 9-29, 32-47, and 50-59 were rejected on the grounds of double patenting of the obviousness type, as unpatentable over applicants' prior US Patent 6,805,201 (although claim 59 was also stated to be "allowed.") Claims 1-5, 9, 10, 25, 42, and 43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by US 5,758,990 – Davies et al. Claims 57 and 58 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by US 6,161,620 – Cox et al. Claims 7, 8, 11-24, 26-41, and 44-56 were objected to as depending from rejected base claims, but were held to define allowable subject matter.

A terminal disclaimer under 27 CFR 1.321(c) is submitted herewith, thereby overcoming the double patenting rejection, which was the only ground for the rejection of claims 6, 11-24, 26-41, 44-56, and 59. With the terminal disclaimer, these claims now define patentable subject matter.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 6, which has been canceled. Claim 1, as amended, should therefore be allowable, along with dependent claims 2-5 and 7-9. Claim 11 has been rewritten as new independent claim 60, which should be allowable, along with claims 12-19, which depend from it. Claims 10 and 11 have been canceled. Claims 20-24 have been rewritten as new independent claims 61-65. Accordingly, original claims 20-24 have been canceled. Claim 25 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 29, which has been canceled. Claim 25, as amended, should now be allowable, along with claims 26, 27, 30, and 31 that depend from it. Claim 28 has been rewritten as new independent claim 66. Claim 28 has, accordingly, been canceled. Claim 32 has been rewritten as new independent claim 67. Claim 32 has, accordingly, been canceled. Claims 33-40 have been amended to depend from new independent claim 67, and should therefore be allowable along with claim 67. Claim 41 has been rewritten as new independent claim 68. Claim 41 has, accordingly, been canceled. Claim 42 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 50, which has been

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canceled. Claim 42, as amended, should therefore be allowable, along with claims 43-49 and 51-56, which depend from amended claim 42. Claims 57 and 58 have been canceled without prejudice. Independent Claim 59 is allowable as filed, and remains in the case.

In summary, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-5, 7-9, 12-19, 25-27, 30, 31, 33-40, 42-56, and 59-68, as amended, are now allowable over the art of record. Passage of the application to issue therefore earnestly solicited.

Should there be any further issues remaining in this case, the Examiner is respectfully invited to telephone the undersigned attorney to expedite the resolution of such issues and to facilitate an early allowance of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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